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Hollywood Pictures and Amblin Entertainment
Present

ARACHNOPHOBIA

OFFICIAL MOVIE ADAPTATION



Script by William Rotsler

Art by Dan Spiegle

Color art by Sam Parsons

Lettering by Carrie Spiegle

Editing by David Seidman

Editor-in-Chief Len Wein

Hollywood Pictures and Amblin Entertainment
Present

ARACHNOPHOBIA

Based on the motion picture ARACHNOPHOBIA

Executive Producers
Steven Spielberg and Frank Marshall

Story by **Don Jakoby & Al Williams**

Screenplay by **Don Jakoby and Wesley Strick**

Produced by **Kathleen Kennedy and Richard Vane**

Directed by **Frank Marshall**



ARACHNOPHOBIA (ISBN 1-56115-050-9), published by Walt Disney Publications, Inc., a subsidiary of the Walt Disney Company, 500 South Buena Vista Street, Burbank, California 91521. The story and art herein is copyright 1990 The Walt Disney Company and Amblin Entertainment, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this book may be printed or reproduced in any manner whatsoever, whether mechanical or electronic, without the written permission of the publisher. The stories, characters or incidents in this publication are entirely fictional. Printed in USA.

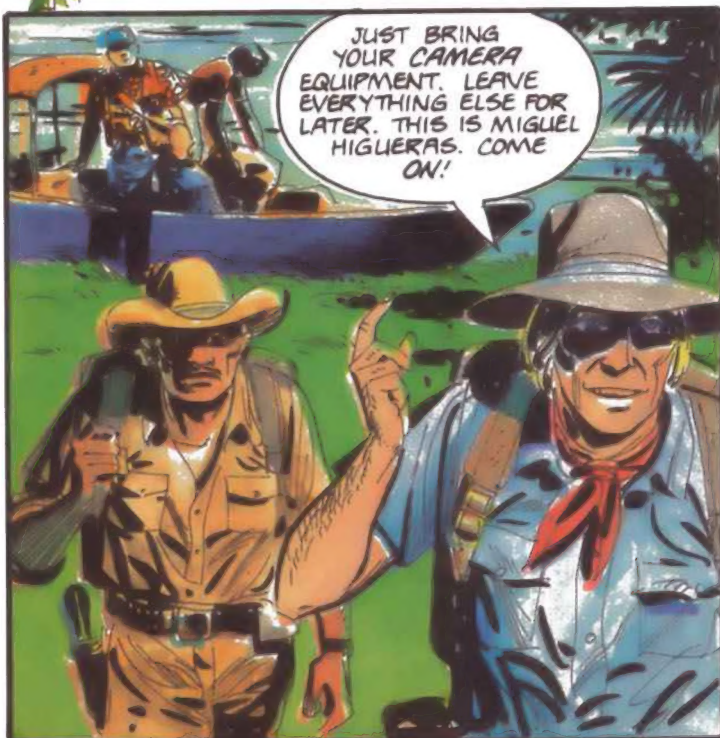
Photographer Jerry Manley has been asked to take pictures of a scientific expedition to Venezuela, led by the distinguished scientist James Atherton.

It seems like a simple assignment...



THE DRINOCO RIVER OF
THE AMAZON BASIN.

HURRY UP
MANLEY! WE'RE
GOING RIGHT
UP!



JUST BRING
YOUR CAMERA
EQUIPMENT. LEAVE
EVERYTHING ELSE FOR
LATER. THIS IS MIGUEL
HIGUERAS. COME
ON!



I WANT
CLOSEUPS OF ALL
THE SPECIMENS AND
COVERAGE OF THE
SURROUNDING
TEPLUIS.

THE
WHAT?



TEPUI.
IT'S INDIAN FOR
MOUNTAIN, WHERE
SPECIES HAVE SURVIVED
IN ISOLATION FOR
MILLIONS OF
YEARS.

ANY
MAN-EATING
DINOSAURS?



ONLY
ATHERTON.

FEWER THAN
HALF THE TEPUI'S
HAVE BEEN EXPLORED.
WE'RE HITTING A
BRAND NEW ONE
TODAY!



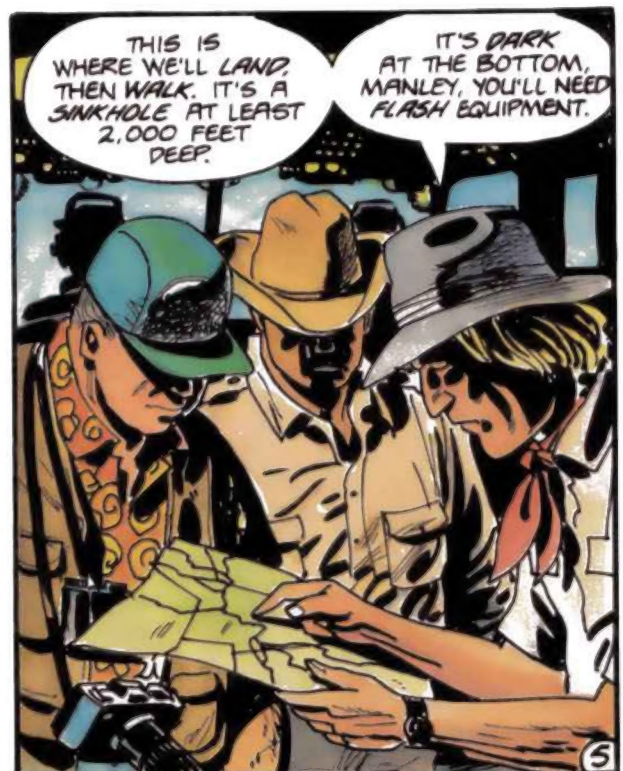
ARE
THESE GUYS
FRIENDLY?



I HOPE SO--
THEY'RE OUR
GUIDES.



VEINTEQUATROS!



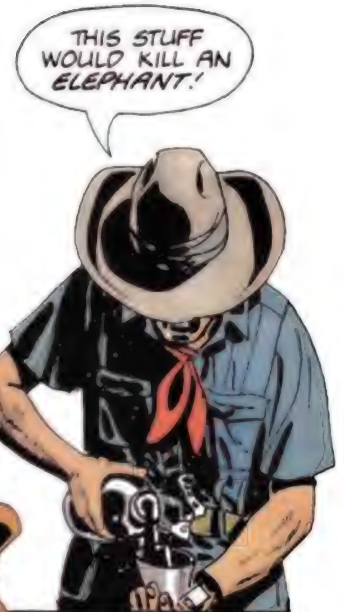






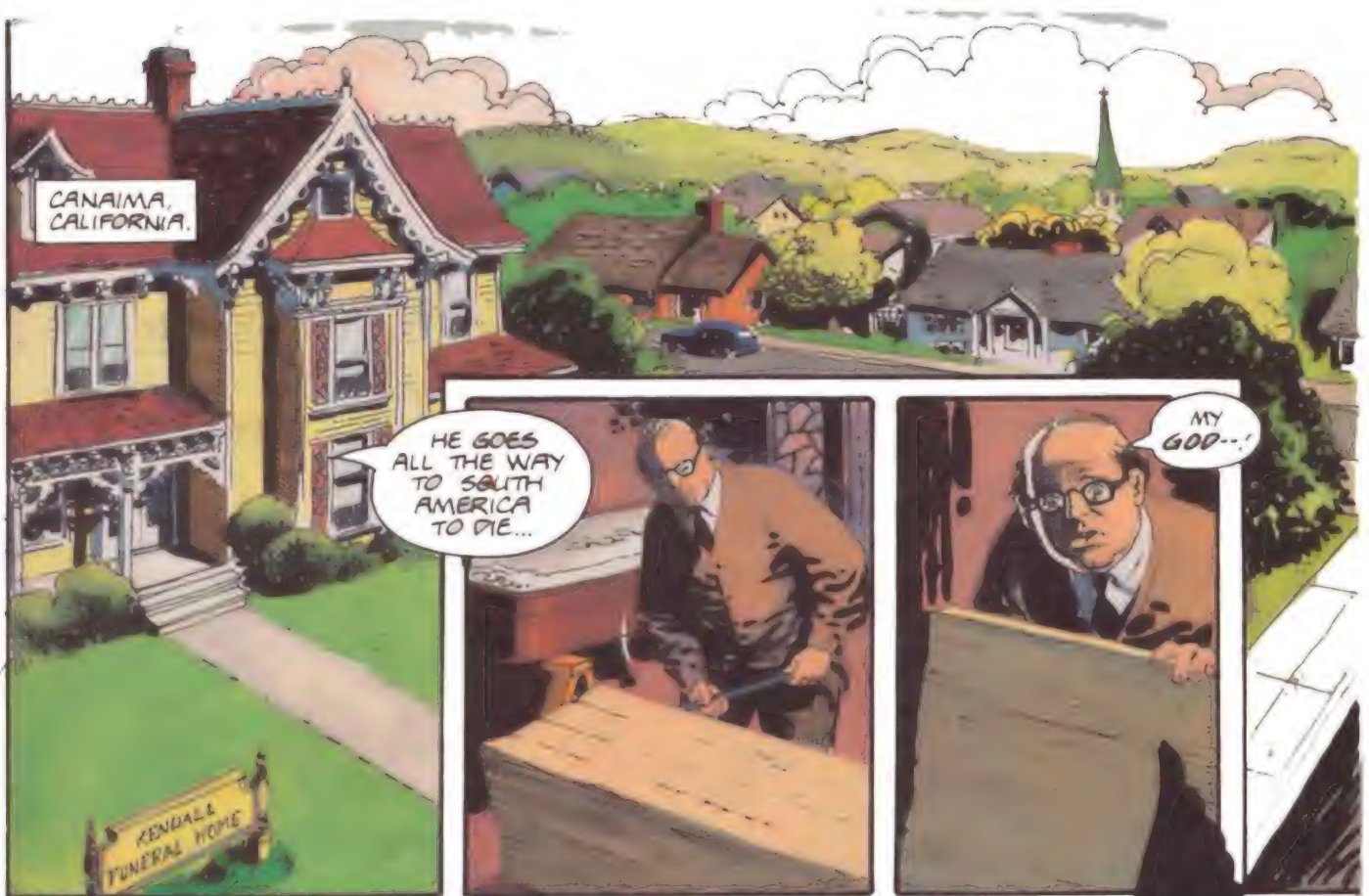




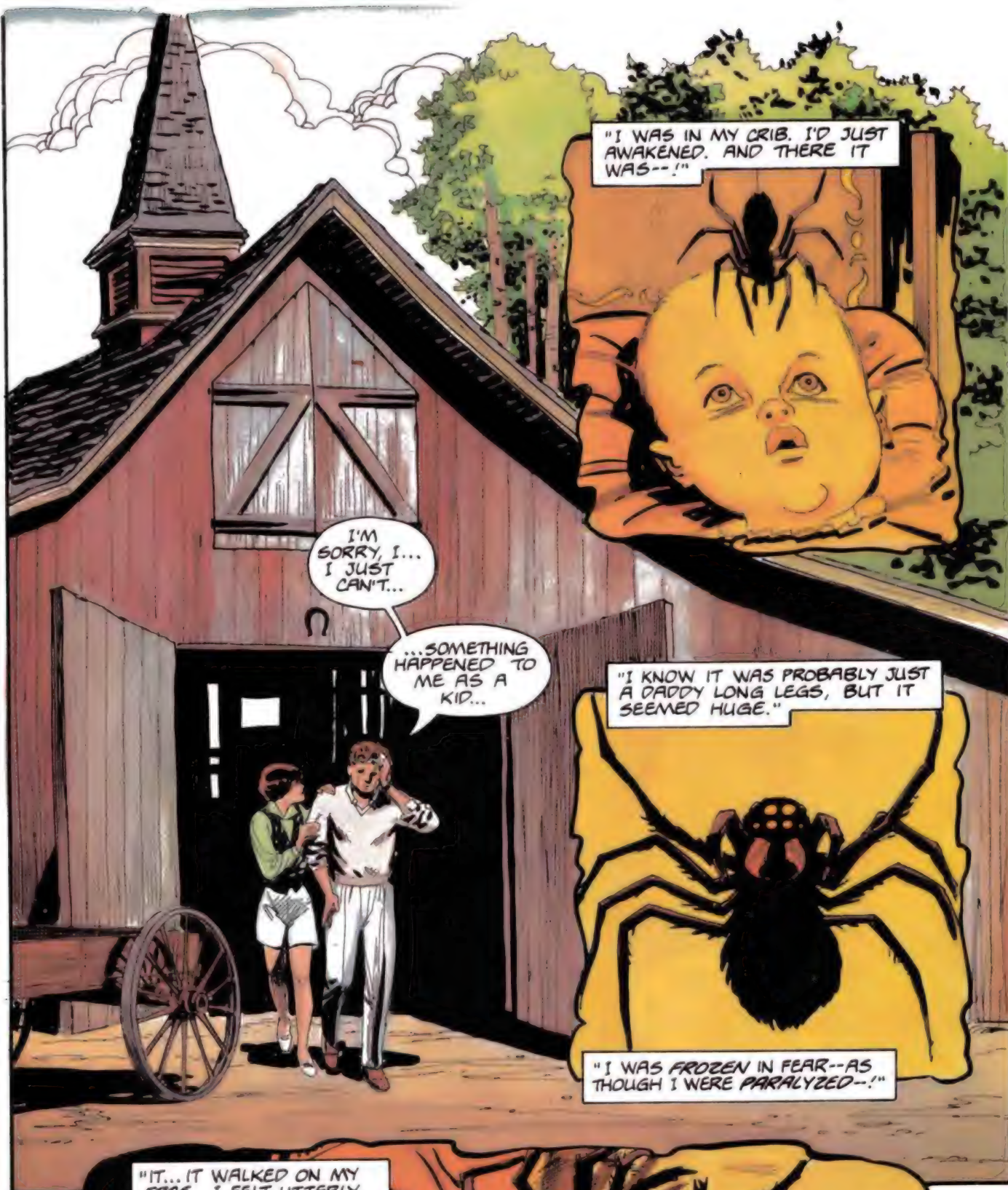












"I WAS IN MY CRIB. I'D JUST AWAKENED. AND THERE IT WAS--!"

I'M SORRY, I... I JUST CAN'T...

...SOMETHING HAPPENED TO ME AS A KID...

"I KNOW IT WAS PROBABLY JUST A DADDY LONG LEGS, BUT IT SEEMED HUGE."

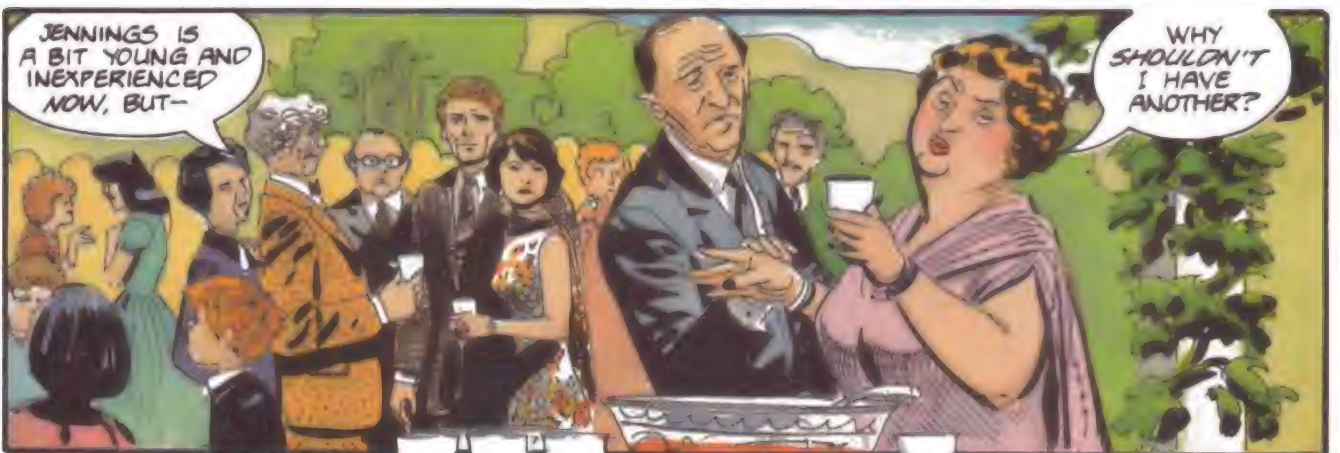
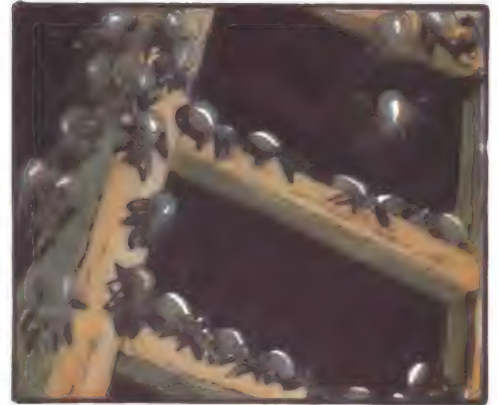
"I WAS FROZEN IN FEAR--AS THOUGH I WERE PARALYZED--!"

"IT... IT WALKED ON MY FACE... I FELT UTTERLY HELPLESS, AS IF I WAS BEING EXPLORED BY THIS ALIEN THING--"





I'VE
DECIDED
TO POSTPONE
RETIREMENT.





DEAR,
PLEASE, JUST
REST FOR A
MINUTE...



I MAY BE YOUR
ONLY PATIENT IN TOWN,
DOCTOR, BUT I WANT TO
THANK YOU FOR FREEING
ME FROM THOSE DAMN
PILLS METCALF MADE
ME TAKE.



WITH MY
SYSTEM CLEAN,
I FEEL I COULD RUN
A TRIATHALON!

I'M AFRAID
DR. METCALF JUST
HASN'T BEEN KEEP-
ING UP WITH MEDICAL
ADVANCES.



WELL,
WE HAVE TO
THANK YOU FOR
THIS PARTY!



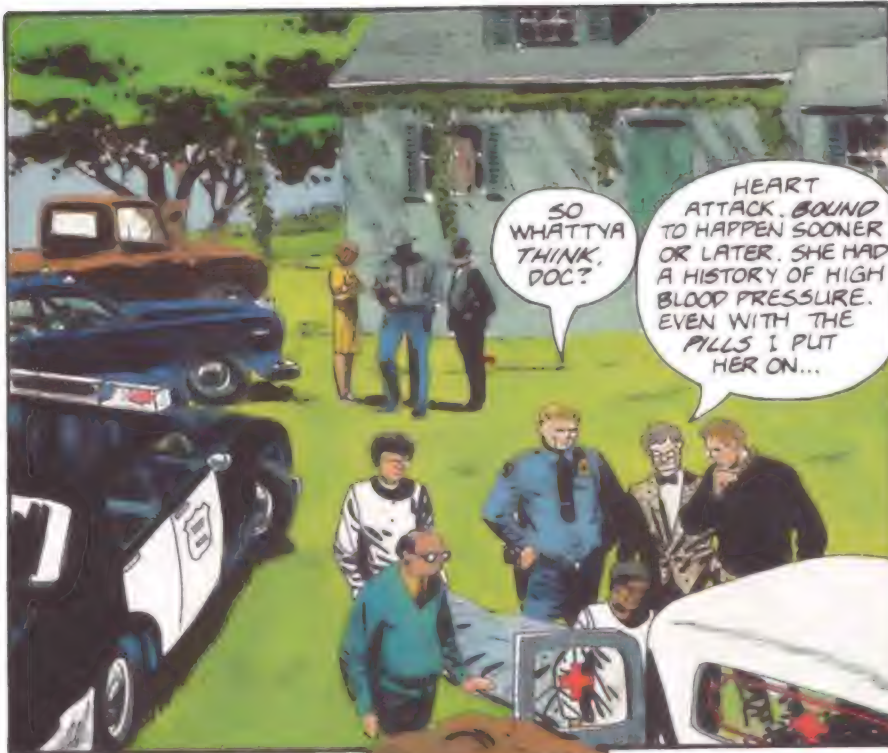
I'M SURE
ROSS HAS MADE
A LOT OF FRIENDS
TODAY.

I WAGER
YOU MADE ENOUGH
FRIENDS TO BREAK
SAM METCALF'S
DEATHGRIP ON
THESE PEOPLE.





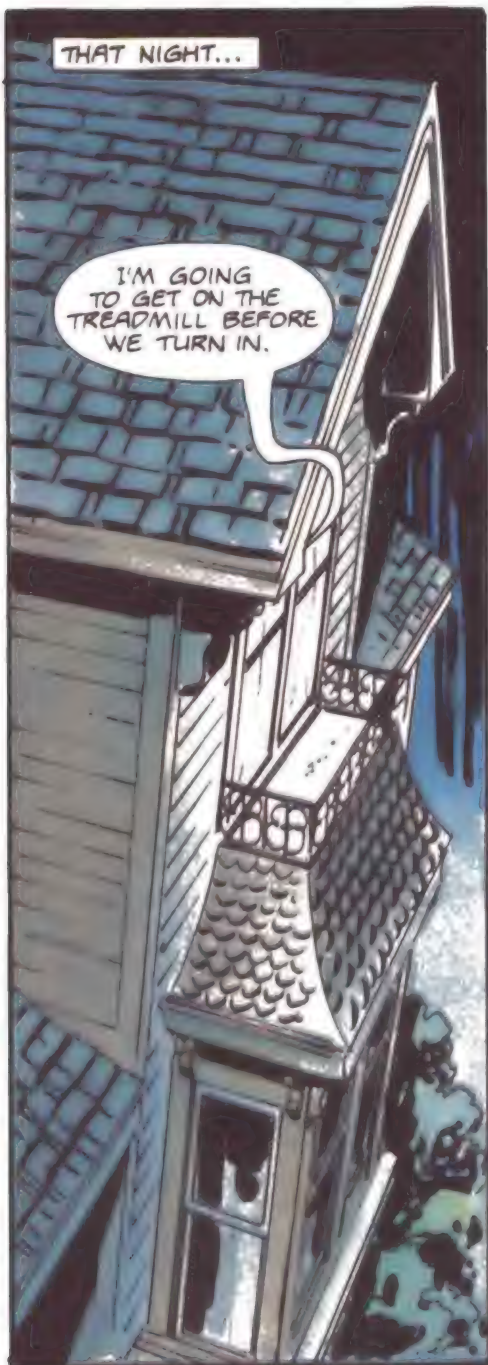
















OH, YEAH--SAM
TOLD ME ABOUT YOU.
YOU'RE THE CITY HOT-
SHOT WHO WON'T ACCEPT
ANYONE ELSE'S
DIAGNOSIS.



I'LL ACCEPT
IT IF I AGREE
WITH IT...AND
THERE IS
ONE!

GOOD!



I BELIEVE
THAT'S A
SPIDER BITE
THERE.

I
AGREE..



BUT I DOUBT
THAT'S WHAT KILLED
HIM. IN 20 YEARS I'VE
ONLY SEEN ONE SPIDER-
BITE FATALITY--
INVOLVING A BLACK
WIDOW AND A
YEAR-OLD
CHILD.



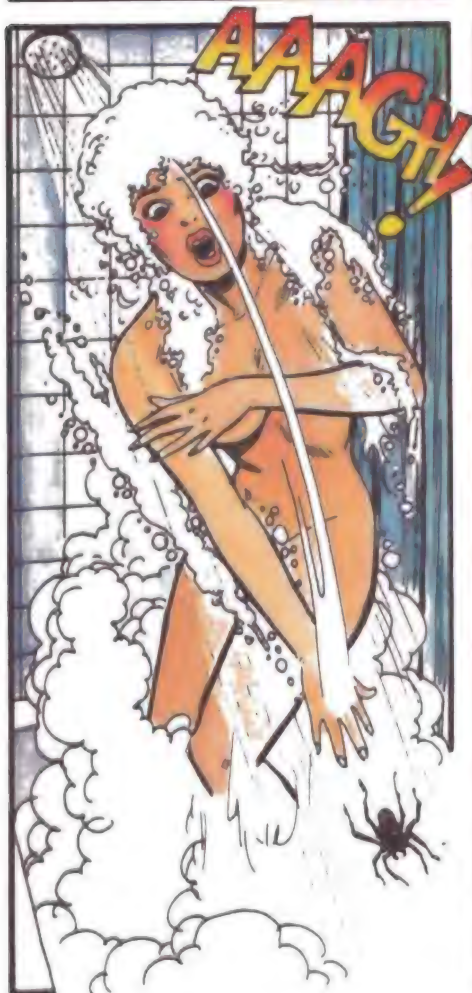
MY GUESS
IS THAT OL' SAM
OVER-EXERTED
HIMSELF.

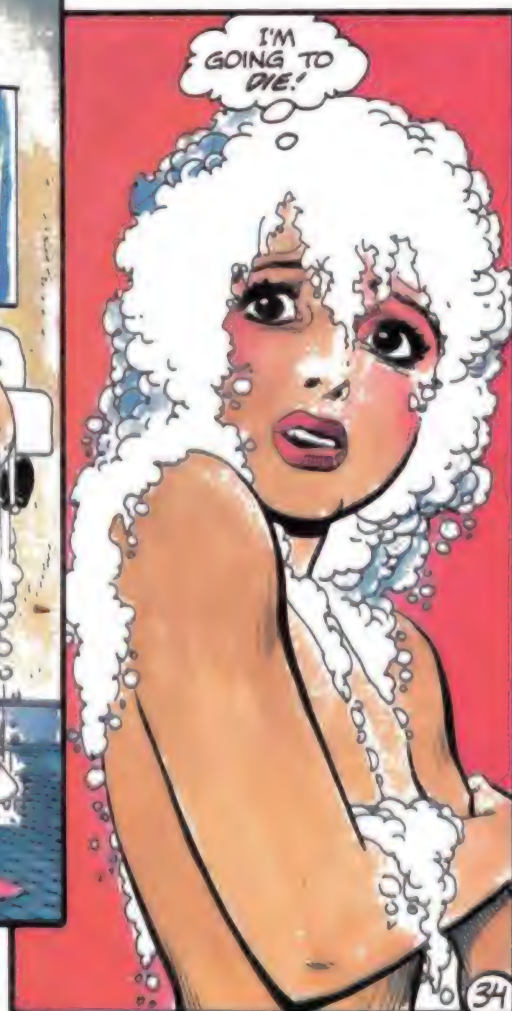
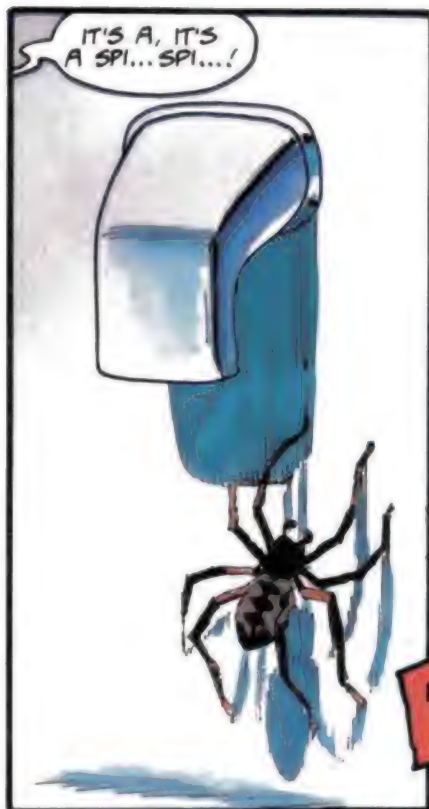
MAYBE SO.
I KNOW THE SPIDER
THING SOUNDS CRAZY,
BUT I WANT THE
CHANCE TO DEFINITELY
RULE IT OUT.



I'D LIKE A FULL
AUTOPSY: TISSUE
SAMPLES, BLOOD
TOXICOLOGY, THE
WHOLE NINE
YARDS.

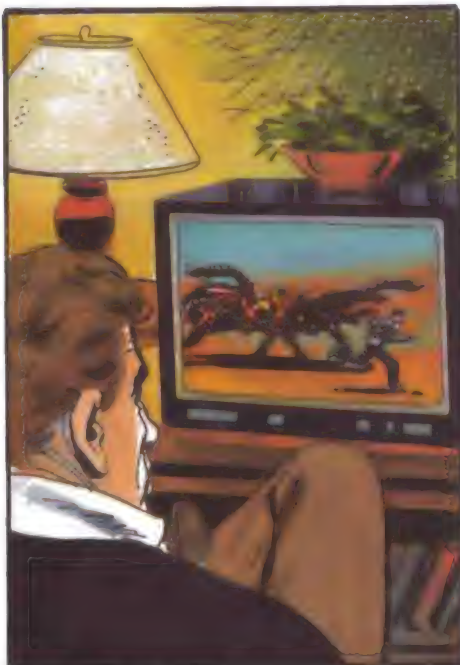












DR. METCALF'S HOME.

LEFTOVERS.
MOSTLY CRICKET
PARTS...WINGS
AND LEGS.

WHAT IS
ALL THAT
STUFF?

COME TO THINK
OF IT, WE HAVEN'T
HEARD ANY CRICKETS
AROUND HERE IN
SOME TIME...

LET'S GO
INSIDE AND
SEE WHAT ELSE
WE CAN FIND.

THIS, UH, NEW
SPECIES OF SPIDER
YOU MENTIONED. UH,
WHERE WAS IT
FOUND?

SOUTH
AMERICA.
VENEZUELA.

NO!

IT'S
DEAD.

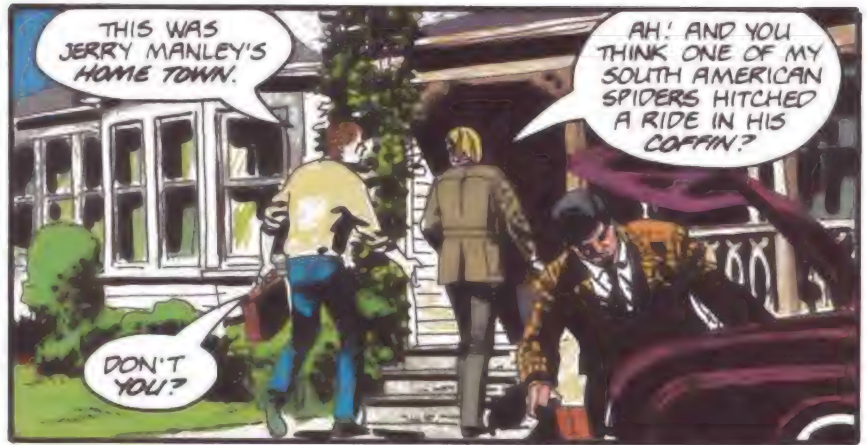
UH...IS,
UH, THAT ONE
OF THE, UH,
NEW KIND?

I'M AFRAID
SO...



DR. ATHERTON.
I'M ROSS JENNINGS.
DO YOU REMEMBER
WHY YOU KNEW
THE NAME
CANAIMA?

UH, HELLO,
DR. JENNINGS.
NO, I DON'T.



THIS WAS
JERRY MANLEY'S
HOME TOWN.

DON'T
YOU?

AH! AND YOU
THINK ONE OF MY
SOUTH AMERICAN
SPIDERS HITCHED
A RIDE IN HIS
COFFIN?



IT LOOKS LIKE
A RELATIVE OF THE
OLIAS, BUT... IT'S
A BIT BIGGER!

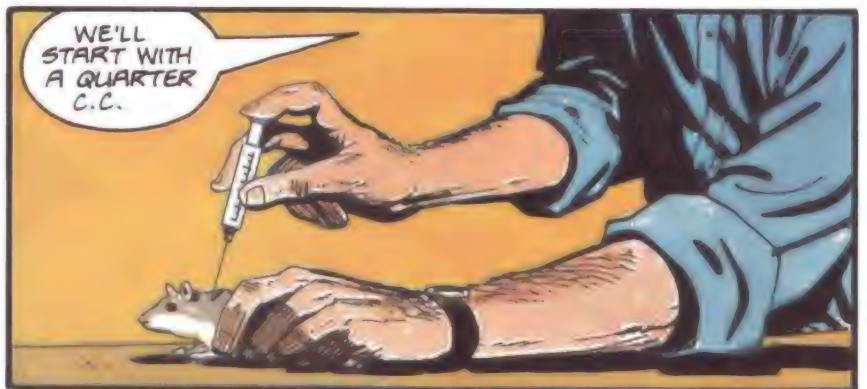
WE'VE GOT
TO TEST THE
STRENGTH
OF ITS
VENOM.



THE FANGS
AND INJECTORS
ARE DISPROPOR-
TIONALLY LARGE.



...THREE
HUGE
POISON
SACS.



WE'LL
START WITH
A QUARTER
C.C.





I'D SAY
EVEN A FRACTION
OF THAT TINY
AMOUNT OF
VENOM WOULD
KILL.

I
AGREE.



THEY
HAVE NO SEX
ORGANS.



THAT WOULD
MAKE THEM LIKE DRONES,
OR SOLDIERS. IT'S TYPICALLY
SEEN IN HIGHLY ORGANIZED
INSECT SOCIETY--BEES OR
ANTS--BUT I'VE NEVER
SEEN IT IN
SPIDERS.

I
HAVE.



VENEZUELA,
RIGHT?

RIGHT.
THIS IS SURELY
A DESCENDANT.
SOMEHOW A SOUTH
AMERICAN MALE
MUST HAVE MATED
WITH A LOCAL,
POSSIBLY EVEN
A BLACK
WIDOW...

--AND
PRODUCED A
VERY DEADLY
STRAIN!



I'D SAY ITS
LIFE CYCLE IS
SHORT BECAUSE
OF THE ACCELERATED
GROWTH.

IN THEIR OWN
ECOSYSTEM, THE SPECIES
I DISCOVERED IS AT THE
TOP OF THE FOOD CHAIN.
THEY RADIATE FROM
THE CENTRAL NEST
IN A WEBLIKE
PATTERN.

THEIR ORIGINAL
HABITAT WAS CONTAINED
BY A SINKHOLE, BUT
THAT'S NOT TRUE
HERE.



YOU
MEAN, UH,
THEY CAN
JUST SPREAD
OUT... END-
LESSLY?

ESSENTIALLY...

...YES!











WELL, THE NEST JUST AIN'T HERE, DOC. I SEARCHED ALL OVER. FINDING NESTS IS WHAT I DO.



ATHERTON SAID THE SPIDERS RADIATE OUT FROM A CENTRAL NEST...



MARK THIS PLACE, THEN DR. METCALF'S HOUSE...

THE FUNERAL HOME...?



AND THE FIRST VICTIM, MARGARET HOLLINS.



WHAT'S THAT RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE?

A HOUSE...



MY HOUSE--!



THE BARN! OF COURSE!

MY GOD, I'M AN IDIOT! IN THE BARN!



NOT LIKELY THIS TIME OF YEAR, DOC. TOO BREEZY. TOO COLD. NO, THE NEST AIN'T IN THE BARN.

JUST DRIVE, PLEASE.



HERE'S WHAT THE NEST WILL LOOK LIKE: IT'LL BE IN A MOIST, DARK PLACE, AND NO OTHER SPIDERS WILL BE AROUND.

HUH?



SHE WOULDN'T LET ANY SPIDERS NEAR THE EGG SAC.

"SHE"?

THE QUEEN. WE'VE GOT TO FIND THE QUEEN AND DESTROY THE EGG SAC BEFORE IT OPENS! OR WE'LL HAVE HUNDREDS OF DEADLY REPRODUCTIVE OFFSPRING!

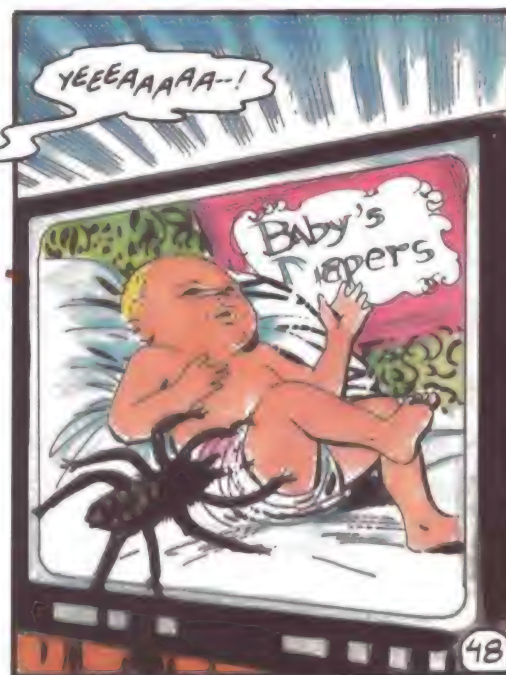


I'M GETTING MY FAMILY OUT! DESTROY WHATEVER'S IN THE BARN!



READY OR NOT, HERE I COME...



































AMAZING...
THE BIG
GALLOOT
KILLED
ALL THE
SPIDERS.

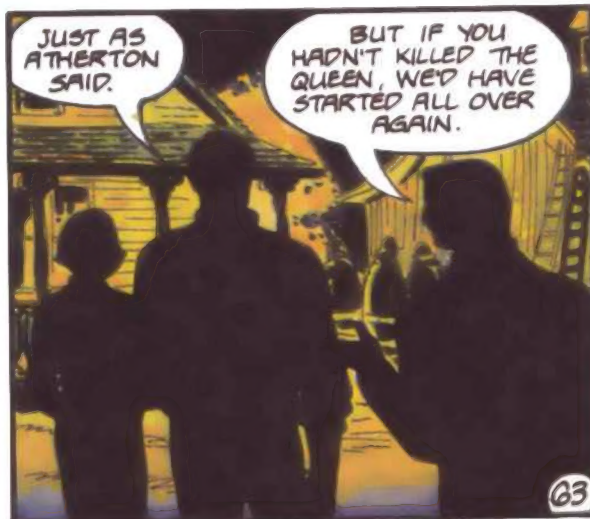
NOT
ALL.



WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?



THE ONES
HE DIDN'T GET
ARE DEAD, OR
DYING. AN
ABBREVIATED
LIFE CYCLE.



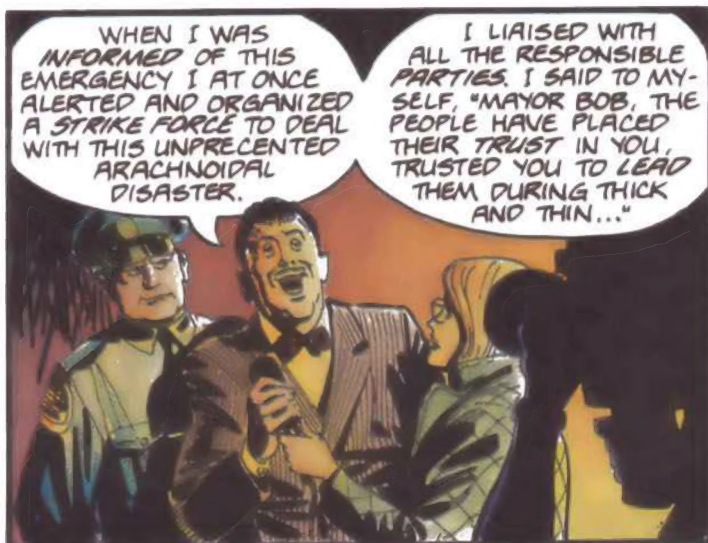
JUST AS
ATHERTON
SAID.

BUT IF YOU
HADN'T KILLED THE
QUEEN, WE'D HAVE
STARTED ALL OVER
AGAIN.



AFTER SECURING THE SCENE AT THE BARN-LIKE STRUCTURE, PROPERTY OF DR. AND MISSUS JENNINGS, I PROCEEDED AT PROPER EMERGENCY SPEED TO SELECT OUTLYING AREAS--

--WHERE I VISUALLY VERIFIED THAT THE ARACHNIDS WERE INDEED EXPIRING.



WHEN I WAS INFORMED OF THIS EMERGENCY I AT ONCE ALERTED AND ORGANIZED A STRIKE FORCE TO DEAL WITH THIS UNPRECEDENTED ARACHNOIDAL DISASTER.

I LIAISED WITH ALL THE RESPONSIBLE PARTIES. I SAID TO MYSELF, "MAYOR BOB, THE PEOPLE HAVE PLACED THEIR TRUST IN YOU, TRUSTED YOU TO LEAD THEM DURING THICK AND THIN..."



LOOK AT AT THE BRIGHT SIDE--YOU DON'T HAVE A BUG PROBLEM.

OR A HOUSE.

WE CAN BUILD AGAIN. MAYBE SOMETHING SORTA, UM, PRE-POSTMODERN?



YOU DON'T WANT TO MOVE BACK TO THE CITY?

MOVE? MOLLY, I LIKE IT HERE!

64



LISTEN!

WHAT?



A CRICKET.

THE END

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Eight legs, two fangs and an attitude.

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